

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks.

Claims 1-8 are pending in this application and stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Lee (U.S. Patent 6,483,274). This ground of rejection is respectfully traversed.

The presently claimed invention, as stated set forth in the first full paragraph on page 5 of the specification, is directed to a power management method in which, after a user-defined remaining capacity is inputted by a user into an electronic apparatus, the user-defined remaining capacity is reported to an operating system installed in the electronic apparatus. Thereafter, the operating system compares the user-defined remaining capacity with a (preset) reference value according to a power management specification supported by the operating system, and switches operation of the electronic apparatus to a low power consumption mode when the user-defined remaining capacity is lower than the reference value.

The presently claimed invention, as set forth in the paragraph bridging pages 5 and 6 of the specification, is further directed to a power management method in which, after a user-defined threshold value is inputted by a user into the electronic apparatus, the user-defined threshold value is reported to the operating system. Thereafter, the operating system compares the user-defined threshold value with an actual remaining capacity of a battery unit that powers the electronic apparatus, and switches operation of the electronic apparatus to the low power

consumption mode when the actual remaining capacity of the battery unit is lower than the user-defined threshold value.

In contrast, the Lee `274 patent, as stated in the last paragraph in column 6, discloses a method in which, when a detected voltage (V_{det}) of a (smart) battery that powers an electronic device is identical to a selected one of the limit voltages (LB), the detected voltage (V_{det}) is compared with a relative state of charge (RSOC) that is received from the battery. When the detected voltage (V_{det}) and the RSOC are identical, a battery residual capacity information using either the RSOC or the detected voltage (V_{det}) is displayed. On the other hand, if the detected voltage (V_{det}) and the RSOC are different, a battery residual capacity information using the detected voltage (V_{det}) is displayed. Furthermore, as stated in the first paragraph in column 7, when the detected voltage (V_{det}) of the battery is identical to a selected one of the limit voltages (LLB), a battery residual capacity information using the RSOC is displayed. As such, as stated in the first full paragraph in column 9, by correcting a difference between the RSOC and the detected voltage (V_{det}), accurate battery residual capacity information can be displayed.

From the foregoing, the Lee `274 patent does not suggest or disclose the feature of permitting the user, by inputting the user-defined remaining capacity/user-defined threshold value into the electronic apparatus, to force the electronic apparatus to operate in the low power consumption mode. In fact, the Lee `274 patent merely permits the user to input a command so as to display the battery residual capacity information (column 7, lines 35 and 36), and operates the electronic apparatus in the low power consumption mode regardless of the user's will (column 9, lines 29 to 36). In other words, in the Lee `274 patent, the user has no other choice

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but to wait until the battery is discharged such that the detected voltage (V_{det}) is identical to the limit voltage (LLB). This is, actually, the problem that the power management method of the present invention is able to overcome. In particular, in the present invention, as is evident from pages 5 and 6 of the specification and independent claims 1, 4 and 7, when it is desired to enable operation of the electronic apparatus in the low power consumption mode, the user simply inputs a user-defined remaining capacity into the electronic apparatus that is lower than the reference value, or a user-defined threshold value that is higher than an actual remaining capacity of the battery unit. As a result, the claimed invention is clearly different from that of the Lee `274 patent, and is therefore novel over the teachings of the Lee `274 patent.

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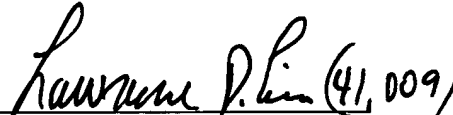
In view of the foregoing all of the claims in this case are believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any questions or determine that any further action is desirable to place this application in even better condition for issue, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone applicants' undersigned representative at the number listed below.

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Respectfully submitted,

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Date: September 1, 2006

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Attachments: None

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Customer No. 00909